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Note by the Secretary-General

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* Reports submitted by non-governmental organizations are issued without formal editing.

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1. Federation of American Scientists (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

The Federation of American Scientists (FAS) provides timely, non-partisan technical analysis on complex global issues that hinge on science and technology. Priding itself on agility and an ability to bring together people from many disciplines and organizations, the organization often addresses critical policy topics that are not well covered by other organizations. FAS projects are organized under three main project areas: strategic security, learning technologies and building technologies.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

(a) Missions for Nuclear Weapons, November 2005, Carnegie Institute for International Peace Washington, DC, United States of America. Presentation "Missions for nuclear weapons"; (b) Paths to Zero, September 2008, Commonwealth Club, San Francisco, CA, United States of America. FAS hosted a symposium discussing United States nuclear weapons policy in the twenty-first century; (c) Intergovernmental seminar on Man-portable air-defence systems (MANPADS) in East Africa, July 2008, Regional Centre on Small Arms, Nairobi. Gave two presentations on shoulder-fired missile proliferation and control at first intergovernmental seminar on MANPADS in East Africa; (d) International trends of production, trade, usage and consumption of ammunition of small arms and light weapons, March 2009, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. FAS gave a presentation on transparency in United States small arms ammunition exports to police and law enforcement officials from the region; (e) First Regional Seminar on MANPADS, July 2008, Nairobi. FAS gave two presentations on the threat from MANPADS and the importance of transfer controls to preventing diversion and misuse to officials from member States of the Regional Centre on Small Arms.

Representatives attended the following meetings: (a) 2007: related to nuclear energy: American Physical Society Annual Meeting, Colorado, March; The International Control of Nuclear Energy, University of California School of Public Policy and Department of Nuclear Engineering, California, September; (b) 2008: related to new technologies in building materials and green energy: International Engineering and Construction Conference, Irvine, CA, August.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

The organization did not participate in United Nations activities because it focused on independent, ongoing projects begun and implemented by FAS. Additionally, the organization was likewise focused on expanding its practical knowledge on certain United Nations goals in order that it might be most useful in achieving said aims.

Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization contributed to the Goals in the following countries: United States, China, Turkey, Kenya and Switzerland.

Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability. **Target 1**: Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources: (a) Environmental and Energy Study Institute Congressional Briefing, May 2008, Washington, D.C., United States of America. Briefing on High Performance Manufactured Housing to congressional staff focusing on the Mississippi Cottage Alternative Housing Pilot Program Project; (b) National Symposium on Building Technology, May 2007, Ankara. White paper and presentation on Energy-efficient/earthquake-resistant building technologies. Audience-representatives of residential and commercial construction industry from throughout Turkey and neighbouring countries; (c) Habitat for Humanity, December 2006, Mobile, AL, United States of America. Led, directed and started construction of two model homes in partnership with Habitat for Humanity Mobile County demonstrating improved construction technologies for more energy-efficient, durable, affordable housing post-Katrina; (d) United States-China Green Energy Conference, November 2009, Beijing. Presented FAS work on safe, energy-efficient housing and emergency relief housing during a session on Rebuilding after the Sichuan Earthquake.

2. Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (Special; 1997)

I. Introduction

Founded in 1931, the Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas (FAWCO) is a non-partisan, not-for-profit corporation that serves as an umbrella network linking independent American and international volunteer organizations around the world. FAWCO is a network of 73 organizations in 38 countries in six continents, with a combined membership of over 15,000 individuals. Since its founding, FAWCO has been a philanthropic organization of volunteers serving and raising money for charities around the world. Its members are involved in activities related to education, the environment, health, ageing and human rights issues, particularly for women and children. It has been a recognized NGO since 1995 and received special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 1997. Since that time, it has greatly expanded its United Nations-related activities. It actively endorses the United Nations and has been enthusiastically supporting the Millennium Development Goals with several projects, including "NetWorks", a programme to raise money for insecticide-treated bed nets, and tree-planting programmes which will be discussed in further detail later in the report. FAWCO's United Nations NGO activities are highlighted on FAWCO's website at www.fawco.org and http://ngofawco.org and http://ngo.fawco.org/malaria.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in United Nations conferences and meetings

2005: (a) The Director and the local representative attended the 58th Annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations conference, "Our Challenge — Voices for Peace, Partnerships and Renewal" in September in New York; (b) the Director attended the sixty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights in April in Geneva, and participated in a statement regarding "Ageing and Rights and the Older Person".

2006: (a) Joined a select group for a health advisory panel to the World Health Organization in honour of its work related to malaria prevention. FAWCO's NetWorks programme was featured in its publication as a model initiative; (b) the Director, local New York representative and youth representatives participated in the 59th Annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations conference entitled, "Unfinished Business: Effective Partnership for Human Security and Sustainable Development", in September in New York.

2007: (a) The Director and the New York representative attended the 60th Annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations conference, "Climate Change: How it Impacts Us All", in September in New York; (b) Four representatives attended the 23rd General Assembly of CONGO (The Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations), in December in Geneva. Brochures were distributed related to the Eleanor Roosevelt Task Force, honouring Eleanor Roosevelt's role in the passage of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

2008: (a) In February, representatives from FAWCO's Vienna organization attended a forum entitled "Campaign against Trafficking of Children" sponsored by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in Vienna; (b) Directors attended the 61st Annual Department of Public Information/Non-Governmental Organizations Conference on the theme "Reaffirming Human Rights: The Universal Declaration at 60", held in September at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization headquarters in Paris; informational brochures related to the Eleanor Roosevelt Task Force, the website and the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration were distributed; (c) the Director met with Shamina de Gonzaga, Chair of the Department of Public Information conference, in April 2008, in Geneva, to discuss pre-conference planning and preparations for the conference in Paris later that year.

Attendance at regular United Nations-related meetings: Being a member of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women (a committee of CONGO), FAWCO representatives attend its meetings regularly in New York and Geneva, and served as Secretary for this committee in Geneva. It is a member of the NGO Family Committee in New York and the NGO Committee on Human Rights in Geneva. Its representatives participated in meetings of the NGO Committee on Ageing in Geneva and attend DPI briefings in New York.

Work with United Nations-related bodies and committees: In 2007, FAWCO joined the Working Group on the Girl Child of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women-Geneva and helped publish for the fifty-first session of the Committee on the Status of Women a comprehensive 32-page report entitled, "A Girl's Right to Live: Female Feticide and Girl Infanticide". Also, as a member of the same working

group, it signed a statement to reaffirm the rights of the girl child. In addition, FAWCO has joined written interventions on "Girls' Education" addressing discrimination in education. FAWCO continues to advocate for and raise awareness about children's rights and women's rights. Each year, members were asked to write to the United States Senate and urge ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. FAWCO regularly promoted participation of its members in the annual United Nations Development Fund for Women campaign to "Say No to Violence against Women." In 2007, FAWCO joined several other NGOs to form the Eleanor Roosevelt Task Force to honour Eleanor Roosevelt for her work as Chair of the committee that drew up the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. FAWCO agreed to design and host a website devoted to Eleanor Roosevelt at www.erooseveltuhdr.org, which has biographical information about Mrs. Roosevelt's life, information about the Universal Declaration and other key human rights documents, as well as events related to the sixtieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration. FAWCO participated in the writing and designing of a bilingual booklet devoted to Eleanor Roosevelt and the Universal Declaration. FAWCO donated scholarship money to the Eleanor Roosevelt Girls' Leadership Workshop to encourage young women to become social activists. In December 2008, FAWCO participated in the design of and fund-raising for a plaque for Eleanor Roosevelt and the Commission on Human Rights that was dedicated by the Mayor of Geneva along with other United Nations dignitaries at the Palais des Nations, United Nations headquarters in Geneva.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: For its seventy-fifth anniversary in 2005, FAWCO adopted a special Millennium Development Goal challenge to raise $75,000 for that year. This would be the equivalent of buying one insecticide-treated bed net for malaria prevention for each individual member of the organization. Our clubs loved fund-raising for this programme, and to date have raised $165,885. To ensure that all the money went for nets and malaria prevention, FAWCO partnered with BioVision, a Swiss foundation doing the only large-scale malaria field control projects in the world: BioVision projects in Malindi and Nyabondo, Kenya, address malaria prevention (goals 4, reduce child mortality, 5, Improve maternal health and 6, Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases), using ecologically friendly pest control (goal 7, Ensure environmental sustainability), and educate and empower women (goal 3). FAWCO sponsored BioVision's *Organic Farmer* magazine distributed to over 100,000 people a month in rural Africa showing how to improve local farming techniques and locally appropriate health information. FAWCO has been involved in supporting tree planting and reforestation related to goal 7 on environmental sustainability. In 1995, FAWCO started a massive tree-planting effort in Casablanca, Morocco, now called the FAWCO Millennium Forest. This project was written up as an Millennium Development Goal "success story" for having planted over 30,000 trees. In 2007, FAWCO joined the United Nations Environment Programme's "Plant for the Planet" and the "Billion Tree Campaign." FAWCO's Environmental Committee issued a "One Member, One Tree" challenge. FAWCO now has tree-planting projects under way in Scotland and the Woodlands Trust in the United Kingdom, Greece, and Toledo, Ohio, in the United States. Every year the FAWCO philanthropic arm, the FAWCO Foundation, donated small development grants to charities and NGOs making a difference in the world. Most of the recipients are organizations doing work related to the Millennium Development Goals on poverty reduction, education

and health concerns, with an emphasis on helping women and children. The following is a summary of recent grants given over the past four years: (a) 2005 Development Grants of $3,000 were given for obstetric fistula surgeries in Mali; malnutrition assistance in the United Republic of Tanzania; Girls Rescue in Kenya; Big Brothers/Big Sisters in Antigua and Barbuda; Madagascar Support for Children's Literacy; and a women's water project in Kenya; (b) 2006 FAWCO Development Grants of $3,000 were given to Hope's Promise Orphan Ministries in Namibia; SOMA Home for Girls in India; Lubumbashi Orphanage in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Malo Eye in Kenya; and Radio Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina; (c) 2007 FAWCO Development Grants of $3,500 each were donated to the Lambs Project in Burkina Faso; Korogocho HIV/AIDS Home Care Centre in Nairobi; Women's Hope International in Chad and Ethiopia; Arche de Noe in Bujumbura; Integrated Bio Farming Technologies for the Blind and Handicapped in Sebete, Ethiopia; Jumpstart for Orphans in Zambia; and the Silk of Hope Project in Cambodia; (d) 2008 Development Grant recipients of $3,500 each were given to a primary school project in Assumer, Morocco; Peaceful Home for children orphaned by AIDS in Nairobi; Heart to Heart for surgeries in Shanghai, China; Mayday, Mayday shelter programme for children in Carei, Romania; Grandma-2-Grandma helping those raising AIDS-affected children in the United Republic of Tanzania; food for refugees in Athens; scholarships for girls in Manila, the Philippines and Women for Girls — the Mill Project in Senegal. For more information on the development grants, see www.fawcofoundation.org. In addition to the development grants, FAWCO club members around the world volunteered their time to raise money for hospitals, orphanages, refugee camps, soup kitchens, shelters for abused women, and many other local civic organizations. FAWCO is proud to have consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and to support the United Nations.

3. Fridtjof Nansen Institute (Special; 2005)

I. Introduction

The Fridtjof Nansen Institute (FNI) is a non-profit, independent institute engaged in research on international environmental, energy and resource management politics. The Institute seeks to maintain a multidisciplinary approach, with its main emphasis on political science, economics and international law. It collaborates extensively with other institutions in Norway and abroad.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Generally, research work performed by the Fridtjof Nansen Institute contributed to capacity-building and knowledge base which decision makers used regarding environmental and development matters. To conduct such research, FNI researchers attended, observed, participated in and organized workshops and gathered information needed for research projects which led to dissemination of information and capacity-building for decision makers in Norway and internationally.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

FNI participated at: (a) Ninth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity held in May 2008 in Bonn, Germany. FNI co-organized a side event entitled "Agricultural Biodiversity: Implementing Farmers' Rights in Practice"; (b) Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity held in March 2006 in Curitiba, Brazil; (c) Fifth Meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) of the Convention on Biological Diversity held in October 2007 in Montreal, Canada. FNI organized a side event entitled "Beyond Access: What You Need to Know About the User Side of ABS"; (d) Fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing of the Convention on Biological Diversity in January/February in Granada, Spain; (e) Eleventh Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Rome, Italy, June 2007; (f) First Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), June 2006, Madrid, Spain. Co-organized a side event entitled "Realizing Farmers' Rights under the ITPGRFA"; (g) Second Session of the Governing Body of ITPGRFA, October 2007, Rome. Co-organized a side event entitled "Realization of Farmers' Rights and the Role of the Governing Body"; (h) Conferences of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 2007 at Bali, Indonesia, and 2008 in Poznan, Poland; (i) In the years 2005–2008, representatives attended a number of meetings of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), including General Assemblies and meetings of the Standing Committee on the Law of Patents and the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore; (j) Chaired (and other FNI personnel participated in the Organizing Committee) of The Trondheim/United Nations Conference on Ecosystems and people — Biodiversity for development — the road to 2010 and beyond, October/November 2007, Trondheim, Norway, and authored the *Chairman's Report* published later that year by the Norwegian Directorate for Nature Management; (k) Co-chaired the Theme Forum on Biodiversity and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment workshop in Stavanger, Norway, May 2006, and co-authored the *Chairman's Report* from the workshop published by the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2007. The workshop focused on the role of natural resource management by local communities and indigenous peoples in the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and actions to achieve the Millennium Development Goals; (l) Director has acted as Goodwill Ambassador for the Convention on Migratory Species since his appointment in March 2006, and chaired an international expert seminar organized by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi in April entitled "Avian Influenza, the Environment and Migratory Birds"; (m) First meeting of the Coordination Mechanism for Capacity-Building for the Implementation of ITPGRFA, May 2008, Bonn, to advise on topics related to farmers' rights.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

In the years 2004-2006 FNI carried out the research projects (a) Animal Genetic Resources: Legal Regulation of Aspects of Property Rights to Animal Genes, Genetic Resources, Breeding and Related Knowledge in cooperation with Wageningen University and Research Centre (the Netherlands) and the International

Livestock Research Institute (Ethiopia). The project was commissioned by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and resulted in a number of publications; (b) Building Capacity for the Clean Development Mechanism in China: CDM Policy Building Support in cooperation with the Research Centre for Sustainable Development, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. The project was commissioned by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, and resulted in three reports submitted to UNDP; (c) Served as member of a panel of expert advisers appointed by FAO to assist and support an independent evaluation of FAO Corporate Strategy B1, conducted in the first six months of 2008.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: (a) In May 2008 FNI launched the *Farmers' Rights Website — Resource Pages for Decision-makers and Practitioners* to support the realization of farmers' rights as they are addressed in ITPGRFA; (b) Co-hosted an informal international consultation on farmers' rights in Lusaka, September 2007, in preparation for the Second Session of the Governing Body of ITPGRFA; (c) Since 2007 has organized annual seminars on the international climate change negotiations held within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change framework, with a focus mainly on how Norway can contribute to bringing the negotiations forward; (d) In February 2006 organized an international seminar to explore ways of ensuring a successful continuation of the process of the WIPO Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. The seminar was held at the Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Lysaker, Norway, and was attended by 19 participants from 14 countries; (e) In the years 2002-2008 FNI carried out a large project entitled "The Role of the United Nations in Global Environmental Governance: Potential for Increased Effectiveness?" which analysed the roles and effectiveness of UNEP, the Commission on Sustainable Development, the Global Environmental Facility and other United Nations bodies in safeguarding the global environment and promoting sustainable development. The project resulted in a large number of publications; (f) In February 2007 an FNI researcher obtained her PhD degree on the topic Governing Agrobiodiversity — Inter-Regime Conflicts on Plant Genetics and Developing Countries, which analysed how the interaction between various (United Nations-affiliated) agreements and organizations affect the management of crop genetic resources in developing countries. A revised version of the PhD dissertation was published in 2008 by a renowned international publisher; (g) In the years 2005-2008 an FNI project entitled Improving Environmental Management in Armenia facilitated competence transfer to Armenian authorities and non-governmental organizations on how to fulfil the country's obligations under international (and mostly United Nations-affiliated) environmental agreements; (h) In August 2008, FNI organized an international conference entitled "The World Ocean in Globalization: Challenges for Marine Regions", which focused mainly on the development of and challenges for the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. There were 200 participants from all continents, including a large number of speakers from various United Nations bodies.

4. International Association for Impact Assessment (Special; 1989)

I. Introduction

Granted consultative status in 1989, the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) appointed member liaison representatives to New York, Geneva and Vienna for the current reporting period. In addition to official activities of the Association, many individual members have contributed in their professional and private capacities to the work of the United Nations.

IAIA is an educational, member-based organization for environmental professionals. Organized 29 years ago, IAIA brings together researchers, practitioners and users of various types of impact assessment from all parts of the world. As of 2008, its membership numbered more than 2,500, including affiliate membership, from over 120 nations.

Aims of the organization: (a) advance the state of the art of impact assessment in applications ranging from local to global. Impact assessment is an umbrella term that encompasses many specialties of assessment, all of which work together to form a comprehensive assessment. Of particular relevance to United Nations concerns have been environmental impact assessment, biodiversity assessment, social impact assessment (including gender and poverty assessment), health impact assessment and integrated impact assessment; and (b) develop international and local capability to anticipate, plan and manage the consequences of development to enhance the quality of life for all. IAIA is the only international organization whose total focus is on the perfection and promotion of the use of impact assessment in all of its forms. IAIA publishes state-of-the art materials from international experts on all specialty areas of impact assessment. IAIA annual conferences are the largest gathering of impact assessment experts and interested professionals, many of whom are employees of United Nations agencies.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

IAIA officers and members participated in and contributed to a number of United Nations meetings over the past four years: (a) **Public Participation**. IAIA was invited to take part in a United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) workshop on public participation in strategic decision-making (December 2007, Sofia). IAIA sent a delegate to contribute to this workshop who has renown in public participation throughout Europe and who is a leader in the IAIA Section on Public Participation; (b) **Conflict and Disaster Management**. In 2006/07, the IAIA Conflict and Disaster Section leaders and the Section itself along with IAIA's Chief Executive Officer participated in the development and evaluation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Post-Conflict and Disaster Management Branch's project to develop a rapid environmental assessment tool, FLASH, to be used immediately following natural/other disasters. In addition to written reviews and participation in meetings by the above, all IAIA members were invited via the IAIA newsletter to review and comment on the methodology; (c) **Dams and Development**. IAIA supported the UNEP Dams and Development Project (DDP), sending a delegate to meetings of the Dams and Development Forum, providing feedback and integration of IAIA and DDP efforts. IAIA delegate and past president

Peter Leonard facilitated a two-day workshop for the Fourth Dams and Development Forum Meeting on gaining public acceptance of dams (October 2005, Nairobi) and also presented the results and recommendations from the IAIA special meeting on strategic environmental assessment (SEA), "International Experience & Perspectives in SEA" (September 2005, Prague); (d) **Trans-boundary environmental impact assessment**. IAIA has been a recognized observer at the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (EIA Convention) and the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA Protocol); several IAIA experts (Mr. Sadler, Mr. Dusik, and Ms. Jurkeviciute) co-authored with Mr. Bonvoisin of UNECE the Resource Manual to Support Application of the Protocol on SEA. This manual was developed in response to a decision of the Meeting of the Signatories to the SEA Protocol in June 2004. In September 2005, IAIA dedicated a special global event in Prague solely to SEA (International Experience and Perspectives in SEA. At all IAIA annual conferences, UNECE is invited to present papers on the SEA Protocol and EIA Convention, and at the 2006 IAIA annual conference (Power, Poverty and Sustainability — the Role of Impact Assessment, May 2006, Stavanger, Norway), a full session was devoted to transboundary impact assessment; (e) **Biodiversity**. IAIA provided technical support to activities related to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the Convention on Biodiversity. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biodiversity in collaboration with the IAIA Biodiversity and Ecology Section redrafted the IAIA integration framework into Convention guidelines on incorporating biodiversity considerations in environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment. These guidelines were endorsed at the Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (decision VIII/28): voluntary SEA guidance was also endorsed at the Conference in 2006. These guidelines were also endorsed by the parties to the Ramsar Convention and the Convention on Migratory Species. IAIA biodiversity expert Treweek provided technical input on the inclusion of biodiversity to a UNEP manual on integrated assessment; (f) **Health**. IAIA maintains a memorandum of understanding with the World Health Organization (WHO), the action plan of which is reviewed annually by the IAIA Health Impact Assessment (HIA) Section, WHO representatives, and IAIA Board leadership. In 2006, IAIA and WHO collaborated on the formulation of a comprehensive proposal for HIA capacity-building in eight countries in Africa. In 2005, HIA Section members Mr. Cave and Mr. Bond assisted WHO-Rome to prepare the annex, "Health in Strategic Environmental Assessment" for the *Capacity Building Manual for the Implementation of the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment*. In January 2007, the HIA Section Chair (Cave) was invited to the WHO Community Health and Safety in Development Lending meeting in Geneva, with representatives of some of the regional and global international finance institutions (e.g. International Finance Corporation, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to explore community health issues affected by development investments (projects) and tools such as HIA which could be used to address these issues. At the IAIA annual conference in Seoul (Growth, Conservation and Responsibility: Promoting Good Governance and Corporate Stewardship through Impact Assessment, June 2007), the WHO Director of Public Health and Environment, Dr. Maria Neira, gave the keynote address, and Robert Bos (WHO) and Peter Furu provided preconference training in HIA. In 2008, IAIA's HIA Section Chair (Mr. Cave) and IAIA's Biodiversity Section Chair (Ms. Treweek) spoke at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and

UNEP-supported conference, the Second International Conference on Health and Biodiversity (February 2008, Galway City, Ireland). Robert Bos and Peter Furu provided preconference training in HIA at the IAIA annual conference (The Art and Science of Impact Assessment, May 2008) in Perth, Australia. The IAIA HIA Section Chair provided detailed comment on a draft document, "Equality in HIA: Strategic Issues for WHO", as part of follow-up work to the Commission on the Social Determinants of Health; (g) **Trade and Environment**. IAIA supported the UNEP training and capacity-building efforts specifically via cooperation with the UNEP Trade and Environment Section. The IAIA website houses the UNEP Users' Training Resources Manual for Environmental Assessment as well as an interactive site for comments and questions about the Manual. IAIA is a member of the UNEP Network of Institutions for Sustainable Development. During the latter part of this reporting period (2008), IAIA and the UNEP Trade and Environment Section began working together to plan the IAIA10 annual conference, with the theme "Transitioning to a green economy" — a focus of UNEP as well as IAIA. IAIA Biodiversity Section members have taken part in the international steering group of the UNEP Trade and Biodiversity Initiative (ongoing), providing technical support to participating countries over the past three years; (h) **Capacity Development**. During this reporting period, IAIA, UNEP and UNDP worked to shape the IAIA capacity development initiative known as the Marrakech Declaration (from 2004 onward), with the understanding that the resulting initiatives would support the mutual objectives of each organization, including the Millennium Development Goals.

IAIA looks forward to continued mutually supportive efforts with the United Nations in the years to come.

5. International Maritime Committee (Special; 1997)

1. Introduction

The International Maritime Committee (CMI) is a non-governmental international organization founded in 1896 and formally organized in 1897; it is the oldest international organization in the maritime field and from its inception has been headquartered in Antwerp, Belgium. Its voting members are the constituent National Associations of Maritime Law, and at present there are over 50 such members with wide geographical distribution around the world who exercise their voting authority during the annual Assembly of the organization. There are also several categories of non-voting members including provisional and temporary member associations, consultative members consisting of both governmental and non-governmental international organizations, and individual titulary members and Members honoris causa. It is a requirement of the CMI Constitution that the individual members of its governing body, the Executive Council, be elected on the basis of diversity of geographical areas and of types of legal system. The sole constitutional objective of CMI is and has always been the promotion by all appropriate means of international uniformity in all aspects of maritime law and maritime commercial practice. From the beginning of the twentieth century this objective was attained in cooperation with the Government of Belgium, which acted between 1910 and 1979 as host to 13 Diplomatic Conferences on Maritime Law, convened to act upon draft conventions and protocols prepared by CMI; the

products of these conferences are widely known as the "Brussels Conventions on Maritime Law" and range from the 1910 Convention on Collision of Ships to the 1979 Protocols on Units of Account, introducing the Special Drawing Right of the International Monetary Fund as the monetary standard in Brussels Conventions on maritime liability and limitation. With the establishment of the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in 1968, CMI began to submit its draft instruments to IMO for consideration, and subsequently also to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). UNCTAD and IMO have since jointly convened working groups and diplomatic conferences to adopt, e.g., the 1999 International Convention on the Arrest of Ships and the 1993 International Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages, both of which instruments are based upon drafts prepared and submitted by CMI. There are numerous similar examples of CMI support of the work of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. During this reporting period there have been no constitutional, structural, or other changes having a significant impact upon the objective, functions, working methods, membership or other characteristics of CMI.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

This report will focus entirely upon those activities of the organization supporting the work and concerns of the United Nations during the reporting period, and primarily upon the key role of CMI (exercised continuously since 1997) in the development of what has since become the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Carriage of Goods Wholly or Partly by Sea, adopted by the General Assembly on 11 December 2008 (resolution 63/122, annex), as this was the major project of CMI during the reporting period.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

In 2005 CMI continued to participate in all of the deliberations within UNCITRAL Working Group III (Transport Law), and a report on the progress of the work within UNCITRAL by the Chairman of the CMI International Subcommittee was made to the CMI Colloquium held in Cape Town, South Africa, in February 2006. The report and consequent discussion at the Colloquium enabled the CMI representatives at the 2006 sessions of Working Group III to reflect the positions of the Committee based upon the exchanges of views of delegates from many CMI national member associations. In particular, CMI provided a requested working paper on current commercial practices related to service contracts in international shipping. This enabled Working Group III to complete its work in 2007 and approve the text of the draft Convention (A/CN.9/645), which in turn was approved by the Commission with some modifications on 3 July 2008 (A/63/17 and Corr.1). Noting its appreciation to CMI, the Commission forwarded the text to the Sixth Committee which subsequently gave its approval and forwarded the draft Convention to the General Assembly for adoption.

Other activities: public international law: In April 2005 CMI convened a meeting in London of the reconstituted Joint International Working Group on Maritime Criminal Acts. Participating organizations included the Baltic and International Maritime Council, the International Chamber of Shipping, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the International Group of P&I Clubs, the International Chamber of Commerce International Maritime Bureau, the

International Transport Workers Federation and the International Union of Marine Insurance; CMI provided secretariat services and its lead representative chaired the meetings. Working by means of four sessions (two in 2005 and two in 2006) and intersessionally by e-mail, the Joint International Working Group assembled draft guidelines for national legislation on maritime criminal acts, which, following approval by the constituent organizations, were submitted to IMO on 15 August 2007 (IMO Doc. LEG 93/12/1). The purpose of the guidelines is to unify national law with regard to serious maritime criminal acts, including piracy, and to make universal the obligation of States having jurisdiction over offenders to either prosecute or extradite them to a State that will prosecute them, thus, e.g., facilitating the elimination of piracy. The principles of the 1988 Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and its 2005 Protocol are adopted by the guidelines and legislation following them would effectively enforce the Convention in national law as well as the provisions regarding piracy contained in article 101 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The net result is intended to support the concern of the United Nations General Assembly regarding piracy, which has been the subject of a number of recent resolutions urging its suppression.

6. International Women Bond (Special; 1997)

I. Introduction

Aims of the organization: International Women Bond (IWB) was established in the early 1990s, at a time when the civil war in the Sudan was at its climax, in response to the unprecedented human, economic and social toll. IWB during the last decade continued to contribute to peacebuilding through conflict mediation, basic services delivery and poverty alleviation among the target communities in the war-affected areas. The prime targets of IWB have been women and children. In its endeavours to create a harmonious working relationship with the international community and the United Nation system, IWB succeeded in getting special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. IWB is one of the NGOs advocating the issue of the human rights situation in the Sudan, especially the rights of women, children and girls; hence, IWB is highly willing to participate in national, regional and international conferences and forums discussing human rights and the empowerment of women worldwide.

Significant changes in the organization: While the organization's aims and purposes remained the same, an amendment, approved by the General Assembly and by the legal authorities in the Sudan on February 2005, extends the possible geographical coverage of its activities beyond the Sudan. This allows IWB to cooperate with NGOs with similar objectives in other countries and to operate beyond the Sudan.

Substantial increase or significant change in the geographical distribution of the membership or any substantial change in the amount and/or sources of funding: While its broad aims and objectives, as well as the nature of its activities, remain much as described in the Constitution, IWB has expanded its range in the Sudan. It has also strengthened significantly its cooperation with non-Sudanese

NGOs and extended its operations to other countries. Furthermore, its advocacy role has been strengthened.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

2008: (a) Attended the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference (April/May, Geneva) so as to contribute to the issues pertaining to racial discrimination, xenophobia and equality throughout the world; (b) Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, resumed session (May/June, New York). IWB delegates attended the meeting to be familiarized with the United Nations system, its subsidiary bodies and international NGOs; (c) Attended the UNHCR Annual Consultations with NGOs preceding the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (June, Geneva); (d) Attended the eighth session of the Human Rights Council (June, Geneva).

It is worth mentioning that IWB would have performed much better in the implementation of United Nations programmes if the following problems were resolved: (a) scarce funds and few representative staff (all volunteers) make attendance at international meetings very difficult; and (b) poor national communications infrastructure makes it difficult to keep abreast of opportunities for collaboration through local United Nations offices.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and/or specialized agencies in the field and/or at Headquarters

Technical assistance to the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS in 2007.

Activities in line with Millennium Development Goals: The organization contributed to the Millennium Development Goals in Darfur: (a) **Goal 1 — Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger: Target 3**: Halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger; **Actions**: (a) 300 expectant mothers given prenatal care; (b) 100 mothers trained in nutrition; (b) **Goal 5 — Improve maternal health**: **Actions**: 30 community midwives trained.

Activities in support of global principles: IWB contributed to World Diabetes Day (14 November, Khartoum). The occasion focused on the increasing hazard of diabetes, especially among children, discussing prevention and proper management, rendering health education and care to diabetes patients. IWB contributed in the International Women's Day activities in Khartoum focusing on gender and HIV/AIDS.